

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below, without prejudice:

1. (Currently amended) A container for providing a liquid for an infant or small child, said container comprising:

a receptacle for receiving said liquid, said receptacle comprising a body portion and a neck portion, said neck portion having a rim defining an opening;

a safety seal removably attached to said rim and covering said opening;

a cap attached to said neck portion, said cap comprising a nipple;

a cover removably attachable to said receptacle, said cover defining an enclosure that is sized and dimensioned for receiving said cap and said nipple therein; and

a ring seal between said cover and said receptacle for indicating when said cover has been removed from said receptacle

wherein said body of said receptacle comprises a pair of grooves on opposing sides of said body, and a support is received in said grooves for holding said receptacle at an angle;

wherein said grooves extend in a direction from a bottom of said body toward said neck portion.

2. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said neck comprises threads and said cap is threadably engageable with said neck.

3. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said receptacle comprises grips to facilitate holding said container without slipping, wherein said grips comprise two separate and discrete gripping surfaces disposed on opposing sides of the receptacle.

4. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said cap comprises a protruding edge for contacting said cover in a friction fit.

5. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said receptacle comprises indicia for providing information to a user of the container.

6. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said safety seal comprising a pull tab for grasping to remove said safety seal from said rim.

7. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said ring seal comprises a first portion attached to said cover and a second

portion attached to said receptacle, and wherein said first portion comprises a ring tab for pulling said first portion to remove said first portion from said cover to thereby allow separation of said cover from said receptacle.

8. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said ring seal comprises a first portion attached to said cover and a second portion attached to said receptacle, and wherein said first portion and said second portion are removably attached to each other.

9. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said ring seal comprises a shrink wrap material covering a junction between said cover and said receptacle.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The container of claim 1, wherein said neck comprises threads and said cap is threadably engageable with said neck;

wherein said receptacle comprises grips to facilitate holding said container without slipping;

wherein said grips comprise two separate and discrete gripping surfaces disposed on opposing sides of the receptacle body;

wherein said receptacle comprises indicia for providing information to a user of the container;

wherein said indicia comprise at least one of a group consisting of a bar code, a description of the liquid, and markings to indicate the quantity of liquid in the receptacle;

wherein said safety seal comprising a pull tab for grasping to remove said safety seal from said rim;

wherein said ring seal comprises a first portion attached to said cover and a second portion attached to said receptacle, and wherein said first portion comprises a ring seal tab for pulling said first portion to remove said first portion from said cover to thereby allow separation of said cover from said receptacle;

wherein said cap comprises a protruding edge and said cover is configured to engage with said protruding edge with a friction fit to allow said cover to be removably replaced on said receptacle; and

wherein said nipple comprises a flexible material and at least one nipple opening for allowing said liquid to pass therethrough;

wherein said support comprises a substantial U shaped member having a curved portion to conform to a shape of said body, said support having rods for being received into said grooves.

12. (Currently amended) A method of providing a beverage to an infant or a young child, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a container having a receptacle, a cap with a nipple, and a cover for covering said cap and nipple;

(b) providing said beverage in said receptacle in a condition ready for said infant or young child to consume;

(c) sealing said beverage in said receptacle with a safety seal; ~~and~~

(d) covering said nipple and cap with said cover and sealing said cover to said receptacle with a ring seal; and

(e) sliding a support along a length of said receptacle to support said receptacle at a desired angle.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of packaging said container for sale individually.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of packaging said container for sale in a group with multiple containers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of providing individually packaged nipples for the container.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A container for providing a liquid for an infant or small child, said container comprising:

a receptacle for receiving said liquid, said receptacle comprising a body portion and a neck portion, said neck portion having a rim defining an opening; and

a cap threadably attachable to said neck portion, said cap comprising a nipple;

wherein said receptacle comprises grips disposed on said body portion to facilitate holding said container without slipping, said grips comprising two separate and discrete gripping surfaces disposed on opposing sides of the receptacle, said gripping surfaces comprising a material or texture which is different than a material or texture in a remainder of said receptacle.

18. (Original) The container of claim 17 further comprising a cover removably attachable to said receptacle, said cover defining an enclosure that is sized and dimensioned for receiving said cap and said nipple therein.

19. (Original) The container of claim 18, further comprising a safety seal removably attached to said rim and covering said opening, and a ring seal between said cover and said receptacle for indicating when said cover has been removed from said receptacle.

20. (Original) The container of claim 19, wherein said gripping surfaces comprise a rubber material disposed in a central portion of the receptacle.

21. (New) The container of claim 17, wherein said gripping surfaces comprise a surface which is roughened as compared to a remainder of said receptacle.

22. (New) The container of claim 1, wherein said support comprises a substantial U shaped member having a curved portion to conform to a shape of said body, said support having rods for being received into said grooves.